

with the Dalai Lama or his representatives on a negotiated solution for Tibet;

Whereas the annual meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland, provides a forum for discussing human rights and expressing international support for improved human performance;

Whereas during his July 1998 visit to the People's Republic of China, President Clinton correctly affirmed the necessity of addressing human rights in United States-China relations; and

Whereas the United States did not sponsor a resolution on China's human rights record at the 1998 session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the United States—*

(1) should introduce and make all efforts necessary to pass a resolution criticizing the People's Republic of China for its human rights abuses in China and Tibet at the annual meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights; and

(2) should immediately contact other governments to urge them to cosponsor and support such a resolution.

## COLORADANS CARE ABOUT LIFELONG, SATISFYING MARRIAGES AND HAPPY CHILDREN

### HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 10, 1999*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, for two years, Coloradans have been bombarded with opinions suggesting it's not about fidelity, commitment, or personal behavior. But now a new survey from the Rocky Mountain Family Council shows what Coloradans really care about are lifelong, satisfying marriages and happy children.

As Members of Congress returned to Washington for the recent impeachment vote, the Rocky Mountain Family Council was unveiling the Marriage Matters: 1998 Colorado Marriage Health Index. The results clearly contradict the values demonstrated by the recent affairs of our President and his apologists.

President Clinton's exploitation of a clever slogan proved decisive in ushering him into office, "It's the economy stupid!" Coloradans, being common sense, caring people, recognize marriage and family last forever. Economic prosperity, however, is often only as secure as the next paycheck.

Sure, some may find solace in this period of relative economic prosperity. Fatter wallets tend to squelch the alarm of cultural decay to a certain degree.

But even the highest heights of consumer confidence cannot achieve the kind of moral indifference upon which political left-wingers are banking in the face of executive scandal and infidelity. On the contrary, Coloradans bristle when politicians betray their marriage vows for extramarital affairs, even when downplayed as "affectionate" or "hugging" relationships.

According to the Family Council, when asked if they could wave a magic wand and

guarantee certain life goals for themselves, Coloradans overwhelmingly chose a lifelong, satisfying marriage and happy children over material goods like fancy houses, comfortable retirements, and fulfilling careers. Further underscoring this result is the fact that Coloradans were far more willing to give up houses, retirements and careers if that would ensure a satisfying, lifelong marriage and happy kids.

The question for political leaders becomes one of how government can best help the average citizen achieve these goals. Government should take a page from the Hippocratic Oath: "First, do no harm."

Many well-intentioned government programs designed to strengthen families achieve just the opposite by subsidizing parents spending time away from their spouses and children. Government policies which support marriage and family, like doing away with the marriage tax penalty in the tax code, can go a long way toward ensuring Coloradans realize their family goals and dreams.

Working families struggling under a heavy tax burden may be so crushed by the weight of supporting lofty government programs they can't spend the time with their spouses and children they'd like. Economic prosperity, lower taxes, and freedom can support and strengthen families and marriages if they enable spouses and parents to devote more attention to what really matters.

Fancy houses? Fat retirement accounts? Cushy jobs? These pale in comparison to heartfelt desires for happy marriages and children. As we enter the twenty-first century, elected officials would do well to respond to what Coloradans say is really important to them. Failure to do so will only perpetuate the myth that strong marriages and families are just by-products of a strong economy.

After all, no one ever went to his or her grave saying, "I wish I had worked longer hours." Government can, and should, do all in its power to allow families and marriages to grow strong without interference.

## A BILL THAT IS GOOD FOR NEW MEXICO

### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 10, 1999*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation, which is being cosponsored by my colleague from New Mexico, HEATHER WILSON, that provides for the transfer of an unwanted facility and federal land to the people of Rio Arriba County, NM. Mr. Speaker, this is a companion bill to a bill that has already been reintroduced in the other chamber on January 21, 1999, by Senator DOMENICI and cosponsored by Senator BINGAMAN, both of New Mexico. This bill was originally introduced by Senator DOMENICI as the Rio Arriba, New Mexico Land Conveyance Act of 1998. With the administration's support, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee reported the bill unanimously in May 1998. On July 17, 1998, the Senate passed this legislation as S. 1510. Unfortunately, the bill died in this chamber at the end of the last session.

This legislation provides for a transfer by the Secretary of Interior of real property and improvements at an abandoned and surplus ranger station in the Carson National Forest to Rio Arriba County. This site is known locally as the "Old Coyote Administration Site" and is located near the town of Coyote, NM. The site will continue to be used for public purposes and may be used as a community center, fire substation, storage facilities, or space to repair road maintenance equipment and other county vehicles.

Mr. Speaker, the Forest Service has moved its operations to a new facility and has determined that this site is of no further use. Furthermore, the Forest Service has notified the General Services Administration that improvements to this site are considered surplus and the sites are available for disposal. In addition, the land on which the facility is built, is withdrawn public domain land, and falls under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management. Since neither the Bureau of Land Management nor the Forest Service have a future plan to utilize this site, the transfer of the land and facilities to Rio Arriba County would create a benefit to a community that would make productive use of it.

In summary, this legislation creates a situation in which the federal government, the State of New Mexico, and the people of Rio Arriba County all benefit. With the bipartisan support of the New Mexico delegation, I am confident that this chamber realizes that this bill is good for New Mexico. For these reasons, I ask immediate consideration and passage of the bill.

## IN MEMORY OF BRIG. GEN. (RET) BEN J. MANGINA

### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 10, 1999*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to say a few words in tribute to the late Brigadier General (Retired) Ben J. Mangina, USAF, of Windsor, Missouri. General Mangina, a loyal and dedicated airman and a good friend of mine through the years, passed away at the age of 78.

General Mangina, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, was born the son of Joseph and Josephine Amari Mangina. He was the commander of several Air Force bases, including Richard-Gebauer Air Force Base. There he commanded the 442nd fighter wing.

General Mangina was also active in the community. He was a member and deacon of First Baptist Church along with many other civic organizations.

General Mangina is survived by his wife, Ethel Mae; his daughter, Rose; his son, Ben; two stepsons, Ken and Don; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Ben Mangina was a dedicated airman and a true friend. I am certain that the members of the House will join me in paying tribute to this fine Missourian.